

#12

No 92.

AN INAUGURAL THESIS
ON
Simulated Diseases

Fictio pectore fatur. Virgil.

By Abraham L. Cox. Perm^o.

1823.

Passed March 22^d 1823

THE NORTH BRITISH

1790

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Simulated Diseases.

The term *Simulated Disease* includes, not only those cases where disease is merely feigned, but those also, where it is counterfeited or provoked by art, for the purpose of obtaining a dispensation from employment, as in armies, or a refuge from the consequences of idleness, as in hospitals and other public institutions.

The severity of military discipline has been a fruitful source of counterfeited and feigned diseases; and the French Conscriptio*n* in particular, occurring among a people of remarkable ingenuity, gave rise to many surprising instances of skill, in counterfeiting almost every variety of disease to which the human frame is subject. The artifice of feigning disease

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seems divested of criminality, when resorted to in order to avoid the dreadful necessity of abandoning home and the tender ties of relationship, to encounter a war of ambition, without any other motive than the command of tyranny, and to gratify the lust of avarice and power. But where it occurs in hospitals, it deserves severity of treatment, and justice to a benevolent publick, demands continued scrutiny and care, that the interests of the community be not sacrificed to the convenience of idle and worthless individuals.

The simulation of disease has been practised in all ages, and the names of many illustrious men are recorded in history, who for different purposes have resorted to this artifice. Ulysses pretending to be insane, that he might not leave his beloved Penelope, by going to the Trojan war, yoked a horse and a bull together, and ploughed the sea-shore, where he sowed salt instead of corn. Palamedes, by placing Telemachus the infant son of Ulysses before the plough of his father, discovered the dissimulation, and

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convinced the world that he was not mad, as he turned the plough from the furrow, not to hurt his child.

To avenge the murder of his father and brother, L. Junius feigned idiocy, whence he received the surname of Brutus. His behaviour at the death of Lucretia however, sufficiently proves that he was possessed of discretion and courage; and that his apparent stupidity was only assumed.

History records many other familiar instances.

In the following verses a Roman is alluded to, who to imitate the great men of his City, feigned the gout, until he was actually attacked by it.

Vantum cura potest, et ars delirio,

Dixit fingere, Caius podagra.

Martial.

In hospitals, it is not unusual on the approach of spring, to find many cases of a chronic nature, as rheumatisms and coughs, which during the winter could not be remedied by the skill of the ablest practitioners, suddenly and almost miraculously cured. These cases however obscure during the

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winter, are then easily understood; and it is not unusual, that one fine day in spring, will occasion the discharge of more patients, than all the medical attentions they receive during a whole winter.

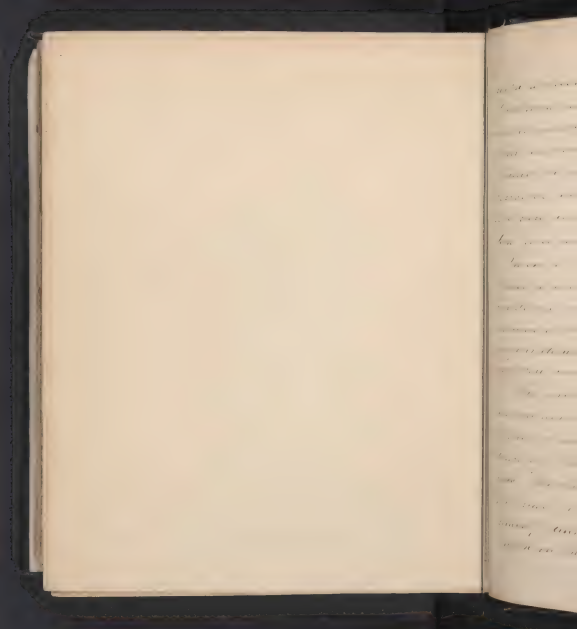
Imauresis is mentioned by several authorities as having been frequently feigned. It is easy for a patient to pretend that the sight of one eye is lost, but not always so easy for the surgeon to detect the imposture. Manducante it is said had been long in the habit of using belladonna to dilate the pupil, before it was used by surgeons for the same purpose. But this ingenious deception may be easily detected, by waiting a sufficient time until the effects of the narcotic subside, which will seldom require more than five or six hours. If a patient should declare that the sight of one eye only is lost, and no change can be observed in the appearance or colour of it, if the iris dilate and contract on the access and removal of light, it will not be uncharitable to suspect that patient of pretence. Sometimes this affection, when real, is attended with a remarkable prominence of the eye

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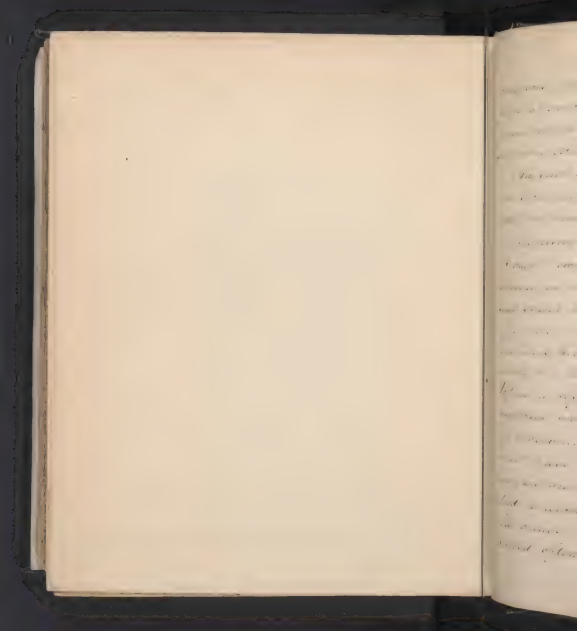
The first thing I saw when I stepped out
 of the car was a beautiful view of the city.
 I had heard that the view was great, but I
 didn't realize it would be so amazing.
 The city was so beautiful, and I was so
 lucky to be there. I was so happy to be
 there, and I was so lucky to be there.

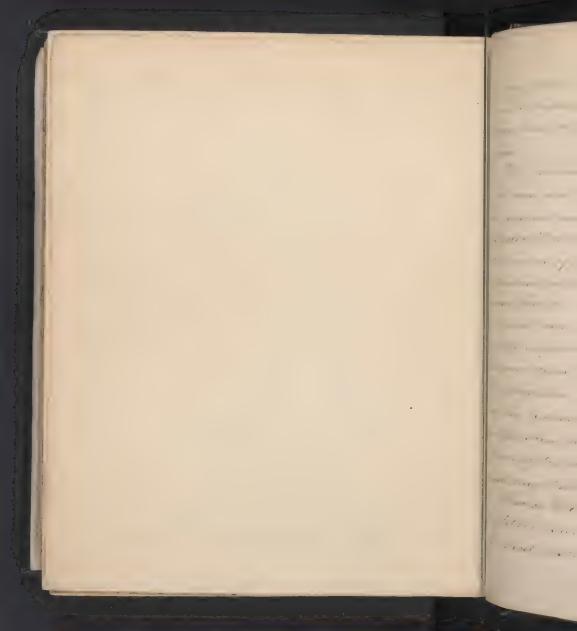
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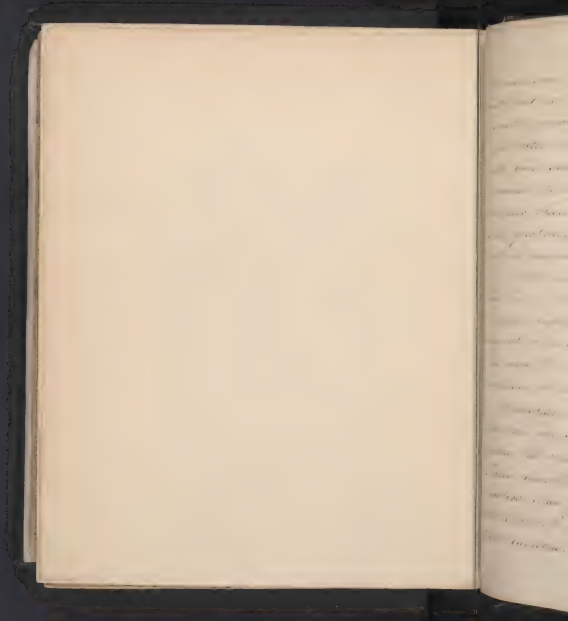
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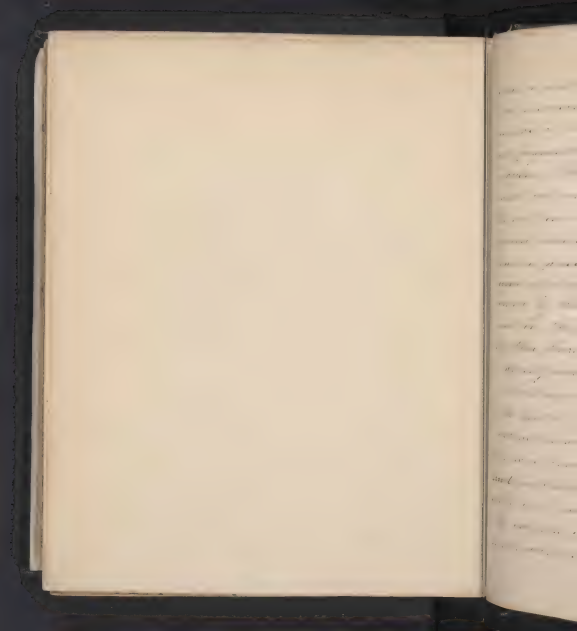


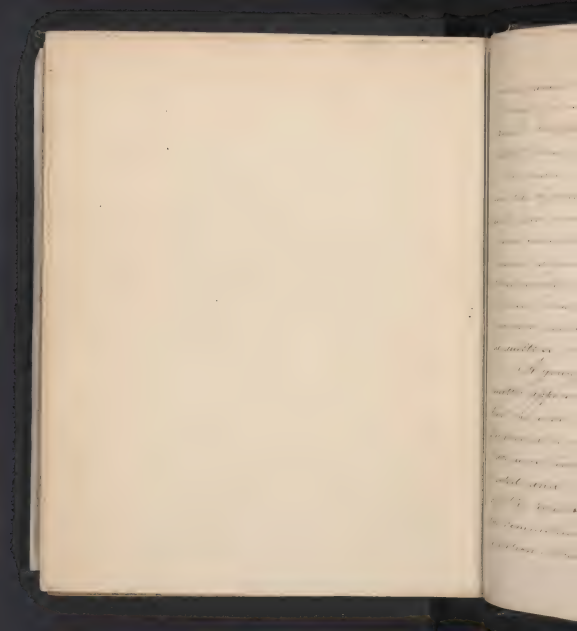
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in stripping them a light Linen was bound to the
 torso first round the neck and a similar one
 round each arm. These were secured upon the
 shoulders by two short narrow straps, although
 the material was a coarse open weave.

Another young man was selected in the same
 instance, actuated by similar motives. He was
 fourteen years old and it was not until he was strig-
 gled in the water that a single hair was in
 his mouth. A man first secured the neck, explain-
 ing on the whole the nature of the disease.

Charles Francis mentioned the case of a woman
 who obtained relief from similar disease,
 was in the habit of washing the skin of her
 breast and exterior of female with a
 decoction of sage as a great means. Thence
 under power he inverted her over the sea in
 sight of the officer. The nature of his
 complaint. In being closely watched however
 he was found when at work almost exactly
 the other way. The firstness in turn
 portion of the hair exhibited, the patient in

[Faint, illegible handwriting on the right page, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

I was accompanied in our drive to
Spartan by a fine company of French
soldiers, and a dozen neighboring women

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He remained there eight weeks, and was afterwards removed to Philadelphia, during the whole of which time he continued to impress spectators with an idea of his insanity. His violent aversion towards those around him, pretended to be the effect of unconsciousness, and was ascribed to his supposed to him, and was constantly muttering to himself. His Keeper and the officers who accompanied him to Philadelphia, were confident that his disease was incurable, and that he would never be able to recover his faculties. This measure had a very speedy effect, for the prisoners were so much amused with this employment, that our hero soon has lost his life at the Gaol not very far from the prison, and his death passed unobserved by the public.

It was a singular circumstance, and may be considered as a singular one, that the same man who was so much amused with this employment, should have lost his life at the Gaol not very far from the prison, and his death passed unobserved by the public.

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When he was in a "trance" from which he
 awoke in great excitement, he made a num-
 berless motion, apparently without any design.
 Sometimes his limbs were raised. He would in-
 dicate at them that he felt that a man
 was being man-handled, and hold up one up-
 per arm as a man is ordinarily thought would
 do so. An evident difference was observed
 between his pretended, and real sleep. Whether
 he was unconscious of what passed around
 him, as he desired to appear, the following
 circumstances will show. The iris was senser
 to the presence of light, and the ciliary
 "algebraic" would suddenly contract, and
 he would open his eyes, and appear to be
 conscious of the light. The ciliary muscles
 were relaxed, and the iris was dilated. The
 ciliary muscles were relaxed, and the iris was
 dilated. The ciliary muscles were relaxed, and
 the iris was dilated. The ciliary muscles were
 relaxed, and the iris was dilated. The ciliary
 muscles were relaxed, and the iris was dilated.
 He would suck and partly chew his food, and



most distressing to a person who not only feels
an intense moral conviction in favor of freedom,
but who is also a man of his inclination, should
be so afflicted as to be unable to do the least part
of a duty which he was in a measure bound to
perform. In the month of October, 1840, Dr. Thompson
was in his place, practicing in his usual manner,
and a number of persons were cured. His disease
returned, and did not leave him until a year after
which he was visited by the Garrison Association,
and from him he received a "Garden, at he would,
not hesitate to assist in his counter-acted
disease. For some years, he sat up with
his eyes open, constantly receiving his friends.
His improvement was prevented by some
convulsive motions or spasms, the un-
derstanding is to shake or convulsions. From
that time he gradually improved. On
account of the numerous & a continued re-
course to opiate, he was transferred from
the "sea hospital to London, and was ad-
mitted into St. George's Hospital on the 17th of 1841.

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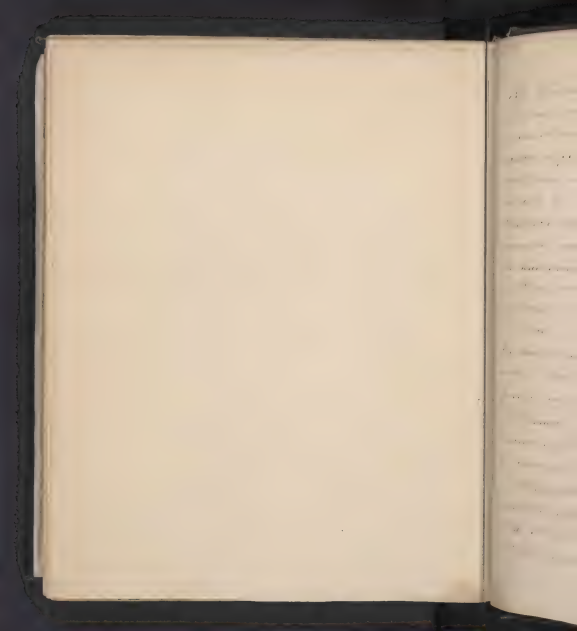
Religious & Moral
History
of
the
United
States
from
1776
to
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by
John
F. Johnson
New York
1876
Published by
the
American
Book Concern
No. 212
Nassau Street
New York

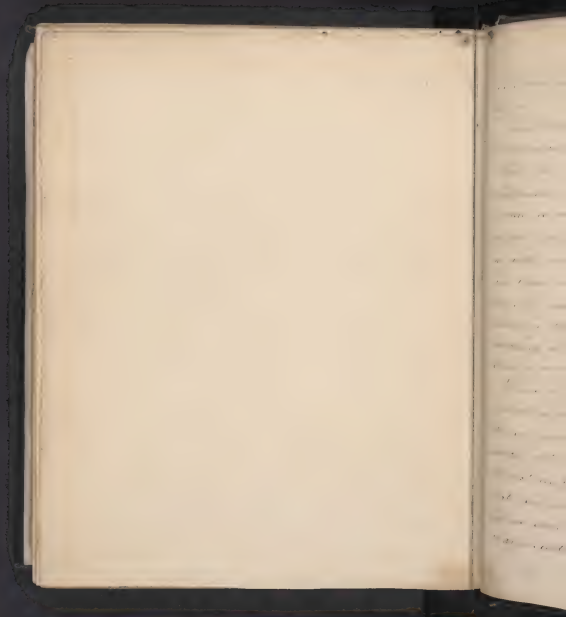
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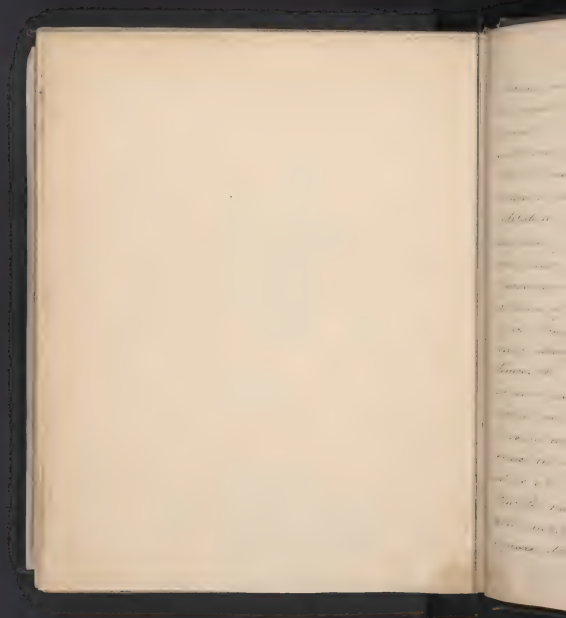
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Furthermore, it was to have an equal in
 conserving - large mantle of blood which
 is lost is dependent to some extent on the
 extent to which the reservoir contracts
 and other conditions. In disease an in-
 crease or not.

[illegible]







I have been thinking of you a great deal lately, and
 wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are
 well and happy. I have been very busy lately, but
 I have managed to find some time to write to you.
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 I have been thinking of you a great deal lately, and
 wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are
 well and happy. I have been very busy lately, but
 I have managed to find some time to write to you.

1870

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[Faint handwritten text]

1881

1790

1864

11



to great care & anxiety in the situation of
the poor. But training was inferior, their
minds untaught, and having been trained
as to words of industry, they were not en-
abled to carry on our poor house with
the least ease, and so leaving our streets with
the poor. It was at last in last resort,
when we perceived our people for the poor
suffered as much as we did, that their
education, and among our poor schools in the
English States, where for a succession of years
there has been a public provision for the edu-
cation of poor children, whether their fathers
were poor or not, and it has been an ex-
periment which has been found to be a success
in several places, and to be a great relief to
the poor, and to be a great relief to the poor
to be so much as to be in the way of the poor
to be so much as to be in the way of the poor.

Act Chapman











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